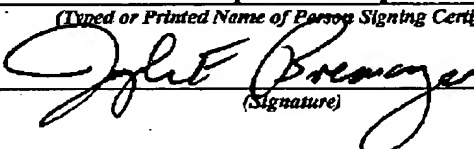



CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)			Docket No. 250882US-71 CONT
Applicant(s): Johann J. Neisz et al			
Application No. 10/675,816	Filing Date September 30, 2003	Examiner Gilbert, Samuel	Group Art Unit 3736
Invention: SURGICAL ARTICLES AND METHODS			
<div style="text-align: right;">RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER SEP 07 2005</div> <p>I hereby certify that this <u>AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION (18 pages including transmittal letter)</u> <small>(Identify type of correspondence)</small> is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. <u>571-273-8300</u>) on <u>September 7, 2005</u> <small>(Date)</small></p> <div style="text-align: center;"><p>Joseph F. Breimayer <small>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)</small></p> <small>(Signature)</small></div> <p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>			

P18/REV02

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)				Docket No. 250882US-71 CONT	
Applicant(s): Johann J. Nelsz et al					
Application No. 10/675,816	Filing Date September 30, 2003	Examiner Gilbert, Samuel	Customer No.	Group Art Unit 3736	Confirmation No.
Invention: SURGICAL ARTICLES AND METHODS					
<u>COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u>					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	20	42	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	6	15	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account <input type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.					
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.					
 Signature			Dated: September 7, 2005		
Joseph F. Breimayer, Reg. No. 25,551 BREIMAYER LAW OFFICE 1221 Nicollet Mall, Suite 206 Minneapolis, MN 55403 Tel. No. 612 338-1279 Fax No. 612 338-0910			I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on _____ (Date) _____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence _____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence		
CC:					

P11LARGE/REV09

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

SEP 07 2005

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Johann J. Neisz et al Examiner: Gilbert, Samuel
Serial No. 10/675,816 Group Art Unit: 3736
Filing Date: September 30, 2003 Docket No.: 250882US-71 CONT
Title: SURGICAL ARTICLES AND METHODS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT and any papers described herein, are being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service, as first class mail, addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this ___ day of September, 2005.

Signature_____
Printed Name**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Entry of this response and amendment filed in response to the Final Office Action dated June 8, 2005, is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper:

Remarks/Arguments begins on page 16 of this paper.